

probable opinion, ought to elapse between the thefts, or one year, according to others !”

“When small thefts take place at different intervals, to the prejudice of the *same persons*, the matter will be grave if they constitute half the sum necessary for a mortal sin. If they take place to the prejudice of *several*, there is a grave matter when the stolen sum is twice as large. It is questionable whether it is a grave sin to steal small objects after having committed a theft liable to be considered grave !”

“If several persons, without agreeing, commit slight thefts, constituting a great totality, each one does not sin gravely.” Laymann says : “If you steal from each one of thirty merchants a small quantity, it may happen that you do not sin mortally, because you are not doing considerable harm to any of them.”

2. “If you steal from one or several persons at long intervals of times, a greater quantity is necessary to constitute a mortal sin. So, when a servant steals, each time one cent, which amounts after four years, to a golden ducat, [pause, reader, to think of the standard] I do not think one must be looked upon as guilty of a mortal sin.”

3. “If you steal to-day, six cents from Caius, from whom you have stolen several times, but to whom you have made restitution, the last six cents have no relation to the first, and do not constitute a mortal sin.